



PULSE^{SD}

EMS PROGRAM QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

South Dakota Office of Rural Health – Emergency Medical Services

December 2019

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<https://EMS.sd.gov>

Director's Welcome

By Marty Link—EMS Director

It is hard to believe just how quickly time passes. I remember listening to the grown-ups, when I was much younger, talking about time: how precious it is and how quickly it passes. Certainly, those wise words, don't let time pass you by. I also remember looking at old black and white photographs and family videos - on a reel! That probably predates a few of you.

For some of you, 2019 provided new opportunities, a new vision, or a new purpose. For others, 2019 was a challenge and a struggle. I wanted to let you know, if you were fortunate enough to wake this morning and begin a new day - you have yet to complete all you were set out to complete in this world. Consider that a blessing!

I have been blessed over this past year by each of you. Your commitment and perseverance continues to inspire me and many other EMS stakeholders from around the state. I wanted to report out about some of the great work the EMS Program has accomplished.

One of the focal areas for the ORH in 2019 was to develop a small stakeholder group. The purpose of this group was to create a vision for SD EMS in 2040. Although the work continues, the ORH and partnering stakeholders and organizations will be transitioning the visioning work and creating a strategic plan for the EMS Program. A strategic plan creates a vision, mission, and guiding principles; it outlines goals, objectives, strategies, and key indicators. This strategic plan will become a roadmap and accountability for the ORH, the EMS Program, and invested EMS stakeholders for years to come. We look forward to sharing more about the strategic plan in future PULSE^{SD} editions.

Most importantly for 2020, I wish each of you the best for this year. I hope it is filled with joy, peace, and love. And when times are tough, I pray a helping hand, a listening ear, or a shoulder to cry on is readily available.

Sincerely,

Marty

Helmsley First Responder AED Project

By Marty Link—EMS Director

Many of you are aware of the latest Helmsley Charitable Trust grant - The Helmsley First Responder AED Project. This \$3.6 million grant is aimed to equip law enforcement officials with the latest generation CR2 AED device from Stryker.

Between October and December of 2019, the EMS Program and Stryker have trained and equipped law enforcement agencies across SD. Over 700 devices have been distributed with approximately 500 devices yet to be distributed after training has been completed.



Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program

By Jill Dean—DOH—Office of Rural Health

The Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program provides a \$10,000 payment to eligible health professionals (Paramedics) who complete a three-year, full-time service commitment. The health professional must enter into a three-way contract between the employing facility and the state. Eligible facilities (SD Ambulance Services) must be located in a community with a population of 10,000 or less. Applications must be submitted by employing a facility with a limit of 3 participants per employing facility.

Applications for the 2020 Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program will be available on May 1, 2020.

For more information contact the South Dakota Office of Rural Health, 600 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD, 57501; phone 1-800-738-2301 or Jill.Dean@state.sd.us or visit their website: <https://doh.sd.gov/providers/ruralhealth/recruitment/Facility/default.aspx>

EMT Renewal

By Bob Hardwick—EMS Program

The EMT recertification cycle is now open (January 2nd to March 31st) for you to log into your new License Management account and submit your renewal application.

There are detailed instruction sheets on how to gain access to your account, how to recertify, etc., in this publication. We will also have these on the EMS Program's website.

We reduced the required hours from 24 to 20, and there are 5 main categories (following the National Registry's 20-hour National Component).

You will need 1.5 hours for Airway/Respiration/Ventilation; 6 hours for Cardiovascular; 1.5 Hours for Trauma; 6 hours for Medical; and 5 hours for Operations.

When you go to recertify (completing your online renewal application), you will also need to upload a copy of your current CPR card/documentation, your Driver's License (or other state-issued photo ID), and a copy of your National Registry card (if you renewed it).

You will also need to upload your photo to your profile. Your photo will be printed on your new SD EMT Certification Card.

Please Note: Renewing your National Registry certification does not renew your SD EMT Certification. You will need to log into your account and renew your SD EMT Certification.



South Dakota EMS Patches

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

If you or your service are interested in purchasing SD EMS patches, you can send a check or money order, made out to ORH/EMS, and mail to 600 E, Capitol Ave, Pierre, SD 57501. The cost is \$1.00 each.

New License Management System—**EMR & EMT Initial Access**

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

The EMS Program has moved to a new License Management System. This new system (LMS) will allow all Emergency Medical Responders (EMRs) and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) who are or were certified in South Dakota to gain access to their account. This will be used to update certain areas of the provider's demographic information (change of address, email address, other contact information), apply for State recertification at the EMR or EMT level, record your continuing education hours for recertification, view and apply to attend continuing education courses, print a paper replacement certification card, and view your status or other EMR's or EMT's status as well as ambulance service information in the Public Lookup area.

To access the License Management Site, you can go to the EMS Program's website: <https://EMS.sd.gov> and click the red button that says "E-Licensing Portal" or use this link:

<https://southdakota.imagetrendlicense.com/sd/public/portal#/login>

If you have never logged into your new LMS account, the first thing you will need to do is to click on the "Forgot Username" link at the bottom of the login page.

When you do this, it will ask you for your Date of Birth, Last Name and Social Security Number. Complete and click "Lookup".

As long as we have these three areas of your information in our system, it will then go to the next page and verify the email address we have on file for you. If it is correct, check your email for a letter.

If we do not have an email in our LMS or it is incorrect, enter a valid email address. Then click "Update Email and Re-Send". Check your email for a letter.

The LMS will automatically send you an email from a noreply@imagnetrend email address that will tell you your Username and provide a link to reset your password. Do not reply to this email.

Please note: Since this automated email comes from a noreply email address, instead of coming to your inbox, it may go to your junk or spam folder. The email to reset your password will expire 72 hours after it is sent.

(continued on next page)

The image shows two screenshots of the LMS interface. The top screenshot is the 'Login' page with fields for 'Username' and 'Password'. Below these fields are links for 'Forgot Username or Forgot Password?', 'Login', and 'Create Account'. The 'Forgot Username or Forgot Password?' link is circled in red. The bottom screenshot is the 'Forgot Username' page, which asks for 'Date of Birth', 'Last Name', and 'Social Security Number'. There are 'Lookup' and 'Back' buttons. The 'Lookup' button is circled in red. Below this is another 'Forgot Username' page showing a 'User Record Found!' message and an 'Update Email and Re-Send' button, which is also circled in red.

From: noreply@imagnetrend.com
Date: 1/8/20 9:39 AM (GMT-07:00)
To:
Subject: SD EMS Program e-Portal Login Information

Dear,

Below is your login information to gain access into the SD EMS Program's e-Portal Licensing System.

Username: "username"
Password: Click [HERE](#) to reset your password.

This link will expire if not used within 72 hours.

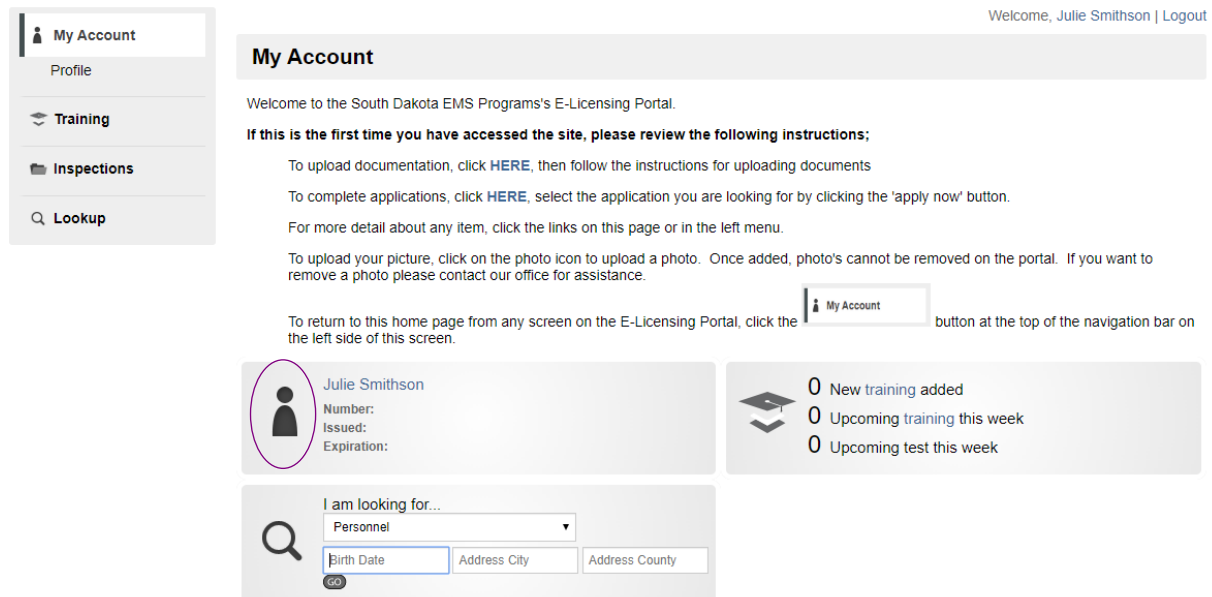
Thank you,

New License Management System—**EMR & EMT Initial Access**

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

(continued)

Once you log into your account, you will see the options available to you on the left side of your page as well as in the middle of the page.



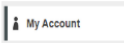
Welcome, Julie Smithson | Logout

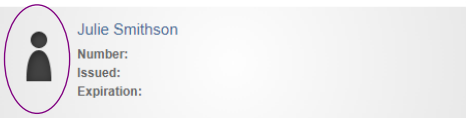
My Account


Welcome to the South Dakota EMS Programs's E-Licensing Portal.

If this is the first time you have accessed the site, please review the following instructions;

- To upload documentation, click [HERE](#), then follow the instructions for uploading documents
- To complete applications, click [HERE](#), select the application you are looking for by clicking the 'apply now' button.
- For more detail about any item, click the links on this page or in the left menu.
- To upload your picture, click on the photo icon to upload a photo. Once added, photo's cannot be removed on the portal. If you want to remove a photo please contact our office for assistance.

To return to this home page from any screen on the E-Licensing Portal, click the  button at the top of the navigation bar on the left side of this screen.





- 0 New training added
- 0 Upcoming training this week
- 0 Upcoming test this week

I am looking for...

Personnel

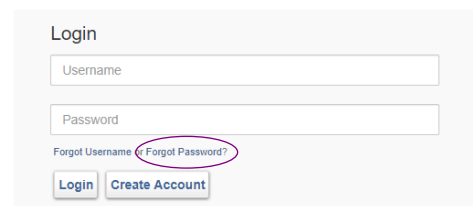
Birth Date Address City Address County

Go

We are also requiring everyone to upload their photo as an added security feature and verification. To upload your photo, click on the gray photo silhouette by your name and it will ask you to “Choose File”. This is where you would have your photo located on your computer to upload to your profile. Your photo will also be printed on your certification card.

Forgotten Your Password?

You can use the “Forgot Password?” link on the bottom of the login page if you forgot your password or need to reset your password.



Login

Username

Password

Forgot Username [Forgot Password?](#)

Login Create Account

If you run into problems accessing your account, please call Lance at 605-394-6027 or email: Lance.Iversen@state.sd.us

New License Management System—EMT Renewal

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

Once you log into your account and click “yes” on the disclaimer,

Release Form

I agree to the following Data Privacy Statement.

☒ Yes ☐ No

PLEASE READ THIS PRIVACY STATEMENT CAREFULLY

ImageTrend users, by accepting this Data Privacy Statement, you agree to keep the information contained within this site private and confidential. Any reporting or exporting of data must be done securely using industry standards and best practices for data privacy and adhering to all applicable federal and state data privacy requirements. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that all applicable requirements are adhered to.

The State has taken steps to ensure that all information contained within this site is secure to protect against unauthorized access and use. All information is protected by our security measures, which are periodically reviewed. Information is protected through the use of passwords, strictly controlled server access, physical security of the hosting site, and 128-bit SSL encryption.

Although the State can assure the security and privacy of the data that has been submitted, we have no control over how individual users may handle their own data, either before or after they have submitted data. In order to protect the security and privacy of your records before or after you have submitted data, we recommend adopting the following procedures/practices:

1. Do not send patient care records via email. Email does not offer the same level of security as submitting data via the internet to Elite because it is not encrypted.
2. Only assign user names and passwords to individuals who have responsibility for Elite.
3. Regularly change passwords.

If you have questions about the Privacy or Security of this site, please contact: support@imagetrend.com

Click on the “Applications” tab on the left side of the page.

My Account

Applications

Continue 1

Transaction

Training

Services

Lookup

Welcome, Julie Boltz-Smithson | Logout

Available Applications

To begin a new application, find the application you are looking for in the list below and select the 'Apply Now' button.

To continue an application started but not submitted, click [HERE](#) to find the application you started, and then click the 'continue' button for that application.

My Applications | Service Applications



Boltz-Smithson, Julie K (SD-E-00007)

EMT
Issue Date: 01/06/2020
Expiration Date: 03/30/2020

Applications

Emergency Medical Technician Renewal Application

Select this application to begin the process of renewing or reinstating licensure as an Emergency Medical Technician.

82 days until application period closes

Action
Apply Now

New Ambulance Service License Application Step 1

This is how an agency provides information on request for Ambulance Service License - Step 1

Apply Now

Provider Replacement Cards

Used to produce interim/replacement License Cards for Providers. For internal use/processing only

Apply Now

Application to Record Your Continuing Education Courses Completed (for the EMR or EMT)

Use this application to submit your continuing education hours and certificates of training. Once completed, this will put your continuing education hours and topics into your Training section.

Apply Now

Records 1-4 of 4

Look for the Emergency Medical Technician Renewal Application. Click Apply Now.

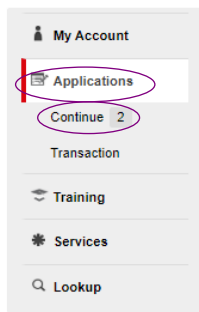
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New License Management System—**EMT Renewal**

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

(continued)

Returning to an incomplete Application



If you leave the application before submitting, you can return to the Renewal Application.

Click Applications on the sidebar.

Click Continue.

Find EMT Renewal Application Form.

Click Continue.

Forms			
Form	Requested	Completed	Action
EMT Renewal Application Form	Jan 8, 2020		Continue

EMT Renewal Application

EMT Renewal Application Form

[Demographics](#)
[Certification/License Information](#)
[Document Uploads](#)
[Education and Training Requirements](#)
[Disclosure Information](#)

▼ Applicant's Information

Review and update all the information in each tab.

Red stars (★) require answering.

Demographics tab has information on Name, Address, DOB, Phone Numbers, etc.

Certification/License Information tab has which ambulance service you work for and if you have a license/certificate in another state.

Document Upload tab has your information on NREMT, CPR, etc. The following documents will need to be uploaded: NREMT card (if you have one), current CPR card, driver's license or State-Issued Photo ID, and any additional certifications (ex. FEMA, EVOC, PHTLS, etc)

If you have a current NREMT EMT Certification and have completed the NREMT section in "Certification/License Information" including inputting your NREMT number and uploading your certification, you can skip inputting your training in the Education and Training Requirements tab.

Click the "Save and Continue" button at the bottom of each page/tab.

(continue on next page)

New License Management System—**EMT Renewal/Training**

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

(continued)

EMT Renewal Application (continued)

Education and Training Requirements tab is for your training hours.

Disclosure Information tab is required. Have you had any felony, disciplinary action, or denied an EMS Certification/License?

And finally, the **Submit Application** tab. Once you submit this application, you can not return to edit anything.

Certification cards will be mailed out after processing the application.

Training Records

To manually, input your continued education hours.

Click on “Add Training”

Type in the name of the class.

Type in the date of the class.

Type in the location of the class.

Upload documentation of attendance. (optional)

Pick the topic of the class.

(Airway, Cardiac, Medical, Trauma, Operations, & Flex)

You can add more topics to a class by clicking on “Add Topics”.

Type in the number of hours.

Pick the options which the class covered.

Click Save after each class.

If you are audited, you will need to show proof of attending these classes by providing certificates, rosters, etc.

Topics	Required	Max	Completed	Remaining
Airway/Respiration/Ventilation	1.50	-	0.00	1.50
Cardiovascular	6.00	-	0.00	6.00
Medical	6.00	-	0.00	6.00
Trauma	1.50	-	0.00	1.50
Operations	5.00	-	0.00	5.00
Flex (Individual Topics)	0.00	-	0.00	0.00
Requirement Total:	20.00	-	0.00	20.00

New License Management System—EMT Training Record

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

Recording Classes not in the E-Licensing Portal

You can add classes to your training records which aren't already in the E-Licensing Portal.
Example: web courses.

Log into your account. Click on Applications.

Find “Application to Record Your Continuing Education Courses Completed (for the EMR or EMT)”

Click Apply Now.

Under the “Continuing Education Documentation” tab, click “Add Training”.

Type in the name of the class.

Type in the date of the class.

Type in the location of the class.

Upload documentation of attendance.
(optional)

Pick the topic of the class.
(Airway, Cardiac, Medical, Trauma, Operations, & Flex) You can add more topics to a class by clicking on “Add Topics”.

Type in the number of hours.

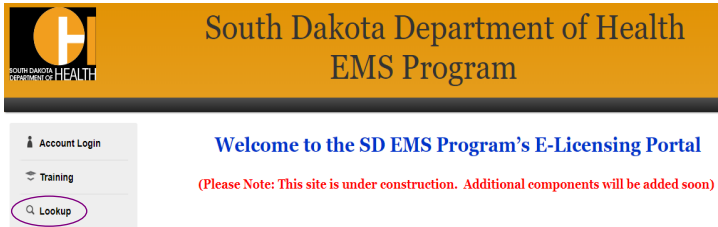
Pick the options which the class covered.

Click Save after each class.

E-sign (password) and click “Submit” when finished.

New License Management System—Public Lookup (Training Courses, BLS Personnel, Ambulance Services)

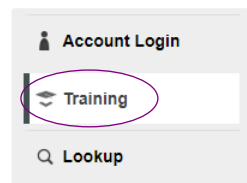
By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator



A feature of our new License Management System is the Public Lookup feature. Without logging into your account, anyone can go to the main page and click the “Lookup” button on the top left side of the page to search for personnel (EMRs and EMTs), or SD Licensed Ambulance Services.

To access the License Management (LMS) site, go to the EMS Program’s website: <https://EMS.sd.gov> and click the red button labeled “E-Licensing Portal”, or you can click on this direct link: <https://southdakota.imagetrendlicense.com/sd/public/portal#/login>.

Click on either the “Personnel” or “Services” button, enter any of the information in the search fields then click the reCAPTCHA box and click Search. This will bring up the service or individual you are looking for. To see more details for the person or service, click on the name.



To search for Training (Initial EMR or EMT Courses, specialty or continuing education classes, refresher classes, etc.), click on the “Training” button. This will open all the training going on around the state that has been approved. You can look at everything in the list or you can use the filters at the top of the page to search between Continuing Education classes or Initial EMR or EMT Courses, etc.

The list populates 10 at a time. To see more, click the Next/Previous button at the bottom of the page or expand the number of results populated per page by using the drop-down box and selecting the number you want to show up on the page.

Find Training Courses

Search for any upcoming training courses that have been approved. To view additional details about any course, click the arrow beside the course name to expand details, or click the course name to open a more complete course overview.

Select Course Type: [v] Select Region: [v] Topics: [v] Start: mm/dd/yyyy End: mm/dd/yyyy

Course number / name [GO] [CLEAR]

Course Name	Location	Course Type	Start Date
▶ 20 hr EMT Refresher - Spearfish	Spearfish Emergency Ambulance Service	Continuing Education	01/27/2020 8:00 AM
▶ 20 hr EMT Refresher - Spearfish	Spearfish Emergency Ambulance Service	Continuing Education	02/24/2020 8:00 AM

To quickly find a course, you can type in the course # (if you know it), or city name, or other keywords in the box with the magnifying glass icon “Course number/Name”, then press “Go”.

(continued on next page)

New License Management System—Public Lookup (continued) (Training Courses, BLS Personnel, Ambulance Services)

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

If you log into your account (EMR & EMTs), you can do the same search (click the “Training” button)

Find Training Courses

Search for any upcoming training courses that have been approved. To view additional details about any course, click the arrow beside the course name to expand details, or click the course name to open a more complete course overview.

Select Course Type: Select Region: Topics: Start: End:

Course number / name:

Course Name	Location	Course Type	Start Date
20 hr EMT Refresher - Spearfish	Spearfish Emergency Ambulance Service	Continuing Education	01/27/2020 8:00 AM
20 hr EMT Refresher - Spearfish	Spearfish Emergency Ambulance Service	Continuing Education	02/24/2020 8:00 AM

If there is a class you want to attend, find it in the list, click the course and it will open up more information on the class/course.

At the bottom of the class information page, there will be a gray button that says “Register”. Click that button and that will put you in that class roster. By having your name on the class roster at the end of the training, the instructor will be able to log into his/her account and mark all the students off who were there for the training as “Pass”. This will automatically put those training hours/topics into your training record.

If the class does not allow registration through this system, you can contact the instructor directly to see if you can attend the training or obtain additional information.

Training Course Details

General Information

Attendee Signup Date: 11/18/2019 - 01/27/2020
Closing Date:
Course Name: 20 hr EMT Refresher - Spearfish
Course Number: 15001
Course Type: Continuing Education
Description: SPEARFISH - This course covers the NCCP EMT 20hr continuing education materia
Registration via www.spearfishambulance.com/education
Levels: EMR Recertification Hours, EMT Recertification Hours
Location: Spearfish Emergency Ambulance Service
Status: Approved
Test Date:
Topics: Airway/Respiration/Ventilation, Cardiovascular, Medical, Operations, Trauma
Training Date: 01/27/2020 at 8:00 AM - 01/29/2020 at 12:00 PM
Training Sponsor: Spearfish Emergency Ambulance Service
Region Held: District 6

Instructor

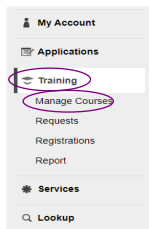
Co-Instructors:
Course Medical Director: Lee Bailey
Instructor Email: bindera@spearfishambulance.com
Instructor Phone: 605-642-8810
Primary Instructor: Andy Binder

Created On:
Monday, November 18, 2019 at 10:14 AM by Andy Binder
Modified On:
Monday, December 30, 2019 at 1:40 PM by Lance Iversen

New License Management System—Instructors (Apply for Cont. Ed., Specialty Courses, EMR or EMT Courses)

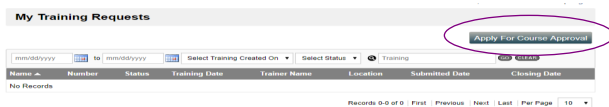
By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

If you are an Instructor or Course Coordinator and you have those permissions in your LMS profile, you can log into your account and apply to hold a continuing education course, specialty course, refresher course or an initial EMR or EMT course.



To access the License Management (LMS) site, go to the EMS Program’s website: <https://EMS.sd.gov> and click the red button labeled “E-Licensing Portal”, or you can click on this direct link: <https://southdakota.imagetrendlicense.com/sd/public/portal#/login>.

When you log into your account, you will have menu options on the left side of your page. Click on “Training” then “Manage Courses”. This will open “My Training Courses”.



You then click the gray “Apply for Course Approval” button to begin the application process.

Fill out the form by selecting options from the drop-down boxes, enter your course information in the other free text boxes, enter dates of the course begin and end, etc. For the training to be viewable, you will need to select Yes to “Allow Registration”.

What this will do is allow EMRs or EMTs to look for training, then request (through this system) to attend your training. When they do this, their name will show up in your course roster. At the end of the training, you can go back into this course and check the box next to each person who was in attendance then select from the drop-down box “Pass”. This will put all the training hours and topics into those people’s training record automatically. If the EMR or EMT did not pre-register, you as the Instructor can go into your course and put people in your course roster (Attendee List) by typing in the person’s last name then selecting them from the list and add to your course.

Once you have filled out the first page of the application, click the gray “Save and Continue” button on the bottom of the page. This will take you to the next page of the application.

(continued on the next page)

New License Management System—Instructors (continued) (Apply for Cont. Ed., Specialty Courses, EMR or EMT Courses)

By Lance Iversen—EMS Data Manager / Ed. & Prof. Standards Coordinator

This page is where you can put in the topics and hours. From the drop-down box, select the Topic, then subtopic (if applicable) and put the number of hours in the “Completed” box.

To add another Topic, subtopic and hours, click the gray “Add Topic” button on the upper right corner of the application page. When you are done, click the gray “Save and Continue” button on the bottom of the page.

If you have any documents such as a flyer, you can upload that on the next tab “Documents”.

When done with the application, click the gray “Request Training” button. This will send me an email that you have submitted an application and I will go in, review, and approve it. Once I do that, it will show up on the Public Lookup site and you will be able to go into your course and make edits to the training dates, add EMRs or EMTs to the class roster, etc.

If you are an instructor and do not have those permissions in your account, please contact Lance Iversen at Lance.Iversen@state.sd.us or call 605-394-6027.

Ground Ambulance Data Collection

By Brian Hambek - President of SD Ambulance Association

We have been told for a couple of years that Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has been tasked with collecting financial data and run statistics for ALL ground ambulances providers nationwide. Medicare has not changed their reimbursement rates since 2000 and the government realizes that EMS is under-funded but need to show how much. **EVERY ambulance service will be assessed over the next five years.**

Twenty-six South Dakota EMS agencies made the list for the first year starting in 2020. Services are selected randomly by their National Provider Identifier (NPI). If your agency has more than one NPI, you will need to this survey for each NPI when it is selected.



General Survey Instructions as published by CMS. ‘Section 50203(b) of the Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA) of 2018 (Public Law 115-123) added paragraph (17) to section 1834 (l) of the Social Security Act (the Act). This section requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop a data collection system to collect cost, revenue, utilization, and other information from providers and suppliers of ground ambulance services (“ground ambulance organizations”). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed a data collection instrument to collect this information. The collected information will be analyzed to assess the adequacy of Medicare payments for ground ambulance services. If you do not sufficiently collect the data during the data collection period and sufficiently report the data during the applicable data reporting period, services will receive written notification that you will receive a payment reduction under section 414.610(c)(9). This data collection instrument includes detailed questions about your organization’s characteristics, services, ground (land and water) ambulance costs, and revenue. The questions generally refer to your organization’s total ground ambulance costs, revenue, and volume of services, not just the portion of costs, revenue, and volume related to services that you provided to Medicare beneficiaries. Organization-specific data collected through this effort will not be published. If your organization bills Medicare for ground ambulance services under multiple National Provider Identifiers (NPIs), the data collection instrument will specify the NPI for which we are requesting data. We use the term “ground ambulance organization” to refer to the NPI for which we are requesting data. We are requesting information pertaining to the 12-month period aligning with either calendar year or your fiscal year. The data collection instrument consists of 13 sections. The time spent gathering the data needed to complete the data collection instrument will vary depending on your organization’s accounting and recordkeeping systems. It is expected to take up to 20 hours to review the instructions and collect the required data and an additional 3 hours to enter, review, and submit the information. We want to make sure that we get a full picture of the cost of operating ground ambulance services at your ground ambulance organization. If your organization is part of a local government or larger institution that pays for certain of your ground ambulance costs (e.g., if your municipality pays facility rent), you will need to collect and report that information. You will not be asked to estimate the value of volunteer labor or supplies, equipment, or other inputs that are donated to your organization.’

(Continued on the next page)

Ground Ambulance Data Collection (continued)

By Brian Hambek - President of SD Ambulance Association

CMS has developed a guide to help you prepare for this Survey. It can be found at the following link: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AmbulanceFeeSchedule/Ground-Ambulance-Services-Data-Collection-System>

This data collection survey, as outlined above, may require much more time than listed if you do not track your expenses in an accounting software or database program. Here is an opportunity for you to enhance your financial tracing. The tracking of call volumes, types of calls, and response times are currently being worked on by your Electronic Health Record Company (ie. ImageTrend, ESO, others). They are developing customizable reports that will be available for you to access to help complete the CMS data fields. If you use a third party biller for your ambulance call claims, they will be providing the necessary data for those parts of the survey as well.

Some of the areas in this survey can be confusing and labor-intensive. For example, *Section 7 Labor Costs*, asks about ‘paid staff’ and ‘volunteer staff’ as well as a mix of those personnel who respond as Fire or Police as well as EMTs. The survey asks for you to account for hours and compensation for those dual employees in their EMS role only. If you have an employee who is an EMT in the beginning of the reporting period and earned their Paramedic certification throughout the year, they are to be reported as an EMT for your hours and wages for the entire year. There are many other areas that require a collaborative effort between your local government, fire department, police department, and others that require data collection in order to complete the survey.

The South Dakota Ambulance Association will be participating in an American Ambulance Association ‘Train-the-Trainer’ program and set-up several training sessions around the state for services who want help in completing the Data Collection Survey. So, the good news is, there will be HELP available. If you have any questions about this Data Collection Survey or financial tracking, please feel free to contact SD Ambulance Assn. (SDAA) leadership or your SDAA District VP. for help.

<https://sdaa.wildapricot.org/>

Homeland Security Open Application Period—Grant

By June Snyder—Program Manager—DPS—Office of Homeland Security

The open application period to apply for 2020 State Homeland Security grant funding starts January 1, 2020; completed applications must be received by February 14, 2020, at 5:00 pm central standard time.

Applications will be accepted through the EDGAR (Electronic Database for Grant Application & Reporting) system. All applications must have a Homeland Security nexus and follow grant terms and conditions. The link to EDGAR is: <https://sddps.intelligrants.com/>.

To review the terms and conditions of Homeland Security grants, please see the following link: <https://dps.sd.gov/resource-library/administrative-manual-terms-and-conditions-september-2019.pdf-2016>.

Funding for projects is expected to become available in September 2020.

For more information, please contact the SD Office of Homeland Security at 605-773-3450 or June.Snyder@state.sd.us

Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialist Course

By South Dakota Association Ambulance

Pre-Conference Workshop on February 7, 2019, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(Must pre-register) <https://sdambulance.org/event-3648210>

Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialist Course

The Certified Ambulance Documentation Specialist (CADS) certification is the first offered by NAAC that is specifically geared for **EMTs, paramedics and other EMS field practitioners**. It is also appropriate for EMS QA/QI personnel, supervisors/managers, compliance officers, billers, and anyone else involved in EMS clinical care or any aspect of the ambulance service revenue cycle.

Every one of your agency's EMS field providers should take the CADS course. Having providers at your agency with the CADS credential shows a true commitment to quality care and top-notch documentation by your agency.

The CADS certification can give providers the edge by:

- Opening new doors
- Advancing their career
- Improving their status as a healthcare professional



The CADS course is an all-day course by live instruction, followed by a final exam. The CADS certification is a lifetime certification with no annual recertification requirements. Well worth the investment for a lifetime of better documentation.

2020 EMS Day

By Maynard Konechne - SDEMSA Political Committee



2020 EMS Day
Monday, February 10, in Pierre, SD



Committee Meetings at 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Picture with the Governor (if she is available)
Session starts at 2:00 p.m.

Social at Ramkota in the Lake Sharpe Room from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Sponsored by: South Dakota Emergency Medical Services Association; Emergency Medical Instructor Society; and South Dakota Ambulance Association

All EMS providers are welcome to attend.

Any questions contact: Maynard J. Konechne
Cell 605-730-0462 or e-mail: mjkemtkc@hotmail.com

South Dakota Ambulance Association Conference

By South Dakota Ambulance Association

SOUTH DAKOTA AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

February 8th & 9th, 2020
Ramkota Hotel, Pierre

Agenda

Saturday - February 8, 2020



9:00 a.m. - Registration

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. - Top 5 Threats to Your Ambulance Service in 2020 and Beyond

Nationally known EMS attorney Steve Wirth has the unique experience of seeing challenges in EMS and the medical transportation industry both from an “above the clouds” vantage point as well as where the “rubber meets the road.” PWW counsels hundreds of clients in all 50 states and territories on how to thrive in this ever challenging, increasingly regulated healthcare world. In this engaging session - and with real court cases to back him up - Steve will bring the collective experience of the entire PWW legal and compliance team to you in a fast-paced, thought-provoking capsule version of the challenges, threats, and opportunities that await you and your organization as we move forward into the future of the EMS world.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - ROUND TABLE

12:30 – 1: 30 p.m. - Lunch with Key Note Speech

Stop Sweating It! 15 Action Steps to Reduce Stress from Living the EMS Lifestyle

It seems like today’s stressful healthcare world is more about paperwork, reimbursement, and “risk management”, and less about taking care of people - or is it? Whatever job we have - from practitioner to leader - we sometimes forget why we got into EMS in the first place. Too much unmanageable stress and you won’t enjoy being in EMS anymore! Well, maybe you need the “15-Step Recovery Program” to reduce stress, have more fun, and make practical improvements to your life and your company - and feel good doing it. This fast-paced, humorous, motivational and practical presentation will help you focus on the “bigger picture” and the important issues that really make a difference - both in your personal and professional life - instead of sweating the small stuff!

2:00 - 3:00 p.m. - Social Media, the Law, and EMS – You Really Gonna Post That?

We live in an age where the internet and social media are consuming much of our time. We all want to share our experiences with others, and the power of instantaneously posting images or comments with literally hundreds of people in our social network is a powerful thing. But we need to be careful. We are health care professionals who have a responsibility to respect the privacy of the patients we treat. And while EMS providers may have some limited “free speech” rights when expressing views on social media, our EMS agencies also have the right to protect their legitimate business interests and reputation in the community. This session will review the law of social media and healthcare. We will provide you with practical tips and examples of how to use social media in a positive way without violating the patient’s rights and without getting in trouble with your EMS employer.

(Continued on next page)

South Dakota Ambulance Association Conference

(continued)

By South Dakota Ambulance Association

SOUTH DAKOTA AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

3:15 - 4:15 p.m. - Five Fast Fixes to Improve Your EMS Documentation

There are many things that can be done immediately to help improve your agency's patient care documentation - for both emergency and non-emergency ambulance services. This session will give you five practical steps that you can take home and implement right away - steps that your crews will find easy to understand and support. These five documentation fixes will definitively improve the quality of your EMS agency's PCRs and enhance legal compliance. These simple steps can be so effective - when implemented correctly - that you will see measurable improvement in the quality of your PCRs immediately after implementation.

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. - The Top Ten "Phrases of Rejection" – The Words That Lead to Denied Claims

Some phrases from patient care reports - like "transported without incident," "transferred to stretcher" or "transported in position of comfort" – are commonly used in patient care documentation but add nothing (or very little) to painting an accurate and complete picture of the patient's clinical condition. Worse yet, these seemingly innocuous phrases are often cited by Medicare claims reviewers as a key factor in denying a claim for payment. We'll review the top ten "phrases of rejection" we've seen in literally thousands of PCRs that can almost guarantee denial of your ambulance claim. We'll provide strategies for improving the specificity of documentation so that a more accurate and descriptive picture of the patient is painted on the PCR.

6:30 p.m. - BANQUET

Sunday - February 9, 2020

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Medicare

Noridian Medicare will have a representative here to answer questions on Medicare and give updates

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. - Lunch – It is ok to say you're not ok

How to handle employees when a call is too much or burn out is happening

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. - Brent and Nick on Radios and Round Table

The new radios that need to be installed by 2022.

2:30 - 3:00 p.m. - SD Trauma

South Dakota Trauma representative will be talking about trauma protocols and answering questions

3:15 - 4:00 p.m. - SD Health Care Coalition

4:15 - 5:00 p.m. - Steve Willard

5:00 p.m. - Closing Comments

For registration, go to <https://sdaa.wildapricot.org/event-3601901>

Spotlight EMS

By Sherry Hocking from Butte County Ambulance-Newell

Welcome! What an honor to be asked to Spotlight Newell Ambulance Service. Butte County has two ambulance services which fall under the direction of an elected Board of Directors, one is the Newell Volunteer Ambulance Service and the other is the Belle Fourche Ambulance Service. We have the same Medical Director, yet we operate independently and different.

The Newell Ambulance coverage area is approximately 2600 square miles. As a very rural area without a huge population, our time for travel to a call and transport back to an ER can be long and cover a lot of gravel roads. Newell Ambulance Service is staffed with all volunteers who need to be ready to respond 24/7/365. Currently, we have 1 AEMT, 10 EMTs, and 4 Certified Drivers. We have one EMT pursuing Paramedic credentials. We average 160 calls for service a year. Our service is very fortunate to have members committed to the community, which is shown by their longevity. Two EMTs have been members of the crew for 40 years each and 5 members have been with the service for 20 years each. This equates to 180 combined years of experience and dedication.

As a service committed to the community, we volunteer our service at no cost for all home football games, wrestling meets, health fairs, and the annual Labor Day Rodeo. We annually provide PR events for the school which includes mock accidents with patients. We demonstrate how our equipment works, and allow time for students to see the inside of our ambulances. Our main response ambulance is equipped with a power load and power-cot. These two pieces of equipment have been a huge asset to our service.

Newell Ambulance Service works closely with Sturgis Ambulance, Belle Fourche Ambulance, and Spearfish Ambulance when we need a higher level of care. They can intercept with us and one of their paramedics will jump in and assist our crew.

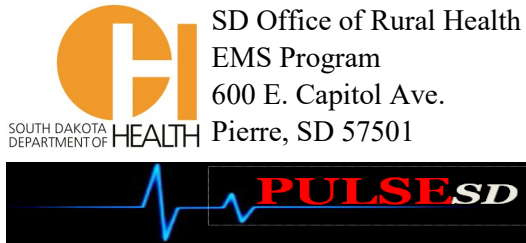
Each month, Sturgis Ambulance Service provides 2 hours of training and continuing education. Our meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. We work closely with the Volunteer Fire Departments of Nisland, Vale, Newell, and Castle Rock. Both Nisland and Vale have rescue rigs to assist in MVA. They assist with traffic control, packaging patients, lifting, and setting up a landing zone, etc. It is a great partnership. All 4 local fire departments are invited to attend training with the ambulance crew for classes such as CPR and Life Flight.

The crew was recognized for their part in rescuing a man lost in a winter blizzard and again this spring with saving a man's life who was washed away in floodwaters during the dark of night.



The community of Newell is very supportive of the ambulance service through Memorial Gifts and the annual Festival of Trees fundraiser. As the director of the Newell Ambulance Service, I am very proud of this crew, the work they do, and the family we have all become.





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